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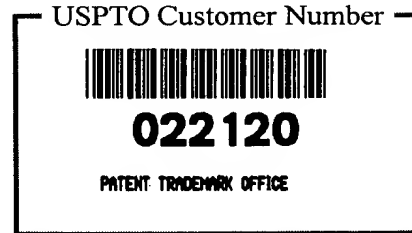
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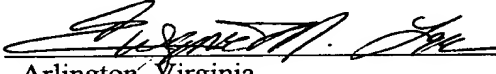
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I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Title 18, United States Code, § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole (or first joint) inventor: Eugene M. Lee

Inventor's Signature:   
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Date: December 11, 1999  
Citizenship: USA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Eugene M. Lee

Title: FEE TRANSACTION SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY ACQUISITION AND/OR MAINTENANCE

Application No.: Unknown

Filed: Herewith

Atty. Docket No.: 017-0002

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Box Patent Application  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, DC 20231

**STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b)—INDEPENDENT INVENTOR)**

As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor, as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office under Sections 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office, with regard to the invention described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith, with title as listed above.
- ☐ the application identified above.
- ☐ the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c), if that person had made the invention, or to any concern that would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ No such person, concern, or organization exists.
- ☐ Each such person, concern or organization is listed below.\*

\*NOTE: Separate statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention as to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

601121 50009100

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Eugene M. Lee  
Name of Inventor

  
Signature of Inventor

Date: December 11, 1999